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proper to take all precautions to insure genuineness. Skulls taken from large cemeteries, or from sepulchres of whatever form erected with care, may be deemed authentic, saving always the chance of intermarriage with distinct tribes, which is usual, because the bodies of slaves are left neglected in the woods. The Chinooks, for instance, preferring to buy wives from the Chihalis or Cowlitz, tribes of Sehlsh origin. If I get time to finish my general report this winter you will find further details, supposing always you are not tired of these. I have never been able to get an authenticated skull of a white half breed. These also are never flattened, the pride of intercourse in the mother preserving to the child the attributes of the superior race."

March 18th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From Signor A. Sauvalle, dated Havana, 10th Feb., 1856, transmitting donations to the Academy.

From Mr. Wm. P. Blake, dated Washington, 16th March, 1856, acknowledging receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

Dr. Leidy presented a paper for publication from Dr. F. B. Meek and Dr. F. V. Hayden, entitled, "Descriptions of new species of Gastropoda and Cephalopoda from the Cretaceous formation of Nebraska Territory;" which was referred to Mr. Isaac Lea, Dr. Leidy, and Dr. Wilson.

Also a paper from Drs. B. F. Shumard and L. P. Yandell, entitled, "Notice of a new Fossil genus belonging to the Family Blastoidea from the Devonian Strata near Louisville, Ky." Referred to Dr. Leidy, Mr. Rogers, and Mr. Lesley.

Also a paper entitled, "Notices of Remains of extinct Reptiles and Fishes, discovered by Dr. F. V. Hayden in the 'bad lands' on the Judith River, Nebraska Territory, by Joseph Leidy, M. D." Referred to Mr. Lesley, Dr. Le Conte, and Mr. I. Lea.

Dr. Leidy remarked that he had examined the specimen transmitted by Mr. Billings, of Ottawa, U. C. Upon removing the matrix he had discovered the hind legs of a young animal, which he believed to be a seal; but whether extinct or not he could not decide.

March 25th.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

The Committee on papers by Dr. Leidy, entitled, "Descriptions of some remains of Fishes from the Carboniferous and Devonian formations of the United States;" and "Descriptions of some remains of extinct Mammalia," reported in favor of publication in the Journal of the Academy.

The Committees on Drs. Meek and Hayden's papers, read 11th and 18th insts.; on Dr. Leidy's, of 18th inst.; and on Drs. Shumard and Yandell's paper, read same date, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.